Rare Species
Observations of the following 57 species of birds in the western Sierra Nevada have been documented five or fewer times:

- **Common Loon** (*Gavia immer*)
- **Arctic Loon** (*Gavia arctica*)
- **Horned Grebe** (*Podiceps auritus*)
- **White Pelican** (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)
- **Great Egret** (*Casmerodias albus*)
- **Snowy Egret** (*Egretta thula*)
- **American Bittern** (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)
- **Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*)
- **Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*)
- **Common Goldeneye** (*Bucephala clangula*)
- **Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta deglandi*)
- **Gadwall** (*Anas strepera*)
- **Blue-winged Teal** (*Anas discors*)
- **Rough-legged Hawk** (*Buteo lagopus*)
- **Ferruginous Hawk** (*Buteo regalis*)
- **Sage Grouse** (*Centrocercus urophasianus*)
- **Bobwhite** (*Colinus virginianus*)
- **Sandhill Crane** (*Grus canadensis*)
- **Sora** (*Porzana carolina*)
- **Solitary Sandpiper** (*Tringa solitaria*)
- **Wandering Tattler** (*Heteroscelus incanus*)
- **Willer** (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*)
- **Greater Yellowlegs** (*Tringa melanoleuca*)
- **Black-necked Stilt** (*Himantopus mexicanus*)
- **Northern Phalarope** (*Lobipes lobatus*)
- **Parasitic Jaeger** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)
- **Forster’s Tern** (*Sterna forsteri*)
- **Caspian Tern** (*Hydroprogne caspia*)
- **Rock Dove** (*Columba livia*)
- **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** (*Coccyzus americanus*)
- **Lesser Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)
- **Costa’s Hummingbird** (*Calypte costae*)
- **Ladder-backed Woodpecker** (*Picoides scalaris*)
- **Wied’s Crested Flycatcher** (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)
- **Gray Flycatcher** (*Empidonax wrightii*)
- **Bank Swallow** (*Riparia riparia*)
- **Purple Martin** (*Progne subis*)
- **Cactus Wren** (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*)
- **Sage Thrasher** (*Oreoscoptes montanus*)
- **Bohemian Waxwing** (*Bombycilla garrulus*)
- **Northern Shrike** (*Lanius excubitor*)
- **Black-and-white Warbler** (*Mniotilta varia*)
- **Virginia’s Warbler** (*Vermivora virginiae*)
- **Magnolia Warbler** (*Dendroica magnolia*)
- **Blackburnian Warbler** (*Dendroica fusca*)
- **Ovenbird** (*Seiurus aurocapillus*)
- **Connecticut Warbler** (*Setophaga ruticilla*)
- **American Redstart** (*Setophaga ruticilla*)
- **Hooded Oriole** (*Icterus cucullatus*)
- **Scott’s Oriole** (*Icterus parisorum*)
- **Rusty Blackbird** (*Euphagus carolinus*)
- **Summer Tanager** (*Piranga flava*)
- **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)
- **Indigo Bunting** (*Passerina cyanea*)
- **Gray-headed Junco** (*Junco caniceps*)
- **Harris’ Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia querula*)
- **White-throated Sparrow** (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)

1. Flocks overhead often seen, but seldom land.
2. Introduced species; uncertain whether established.
3. Small populations in a few low-elevation communities, such as Auburn, Placer County (R. Stallcup, pers. commun., May, 1977).
4. Found only in riparian woodland along Kern River, Kern County; breeds.
5. Found only in Joshua tree woodland along Kern River, Kern County; probably breeds.
6. One breeding record, in Mineral King area, Tulare County (Stallcup and Greenberg 1974).
Rare species like China’s giant pandas, California’s sequoias, and the Atlantic bluefin tuna are more valuable than people realize. The common misconception is that because they are few, they do not have a lot to offer to the environment. Despite their low numbers, it’s important to remember that each species interact within an ecosystem. When one species dies off, it creates a chain of reactions that upsets this balance. The main problem is that scientists have yet to identify the exact roles of rare species in that balance. A rare species is a group of organisms that are very uncommon, scarce, or infrequently encountered. This designation may be applied to either a plant or animal taxon, and is distinct from the term endangered or threatened. Designation of a rare species may be made by an official body, such as a national government, state, or province. The term more commonly appears without reference to specific criteria. The IUCN does not normally make such designations, but may use the term in scientific discussion. A rare species is a group of organisms that are very uncommon, scarce, or infrequently encountered. This designation may be applied to either a plant or animal taxon, and is distinct from the term endangered or threatened. Threatened Species are any species which are vulnerable to endangerment in the near future. Species that are threatened are sometimes characterised by the population dynamics measure of critical depensation, a mathematical measure of biomass related to population growth rate. Examples of rare species in a sentence, how to use it. 19 examples: Rare species in communities of tropical insect herbivores: pondering the mystery of singletons. From the Cambridge English Corpus.